OPINION

Let's help attract Steamtown to area

Carbondale area residents are interested in Scranton mayor James McNulty's efforts to attract Steamtown, U.S.A. to Scranton because there has been discussion about developing excursion trips on the rail line between Scranton and Carbondale. Some people envision Carbondale becoming a tourist attraction for railroad enthusiasts.

Certainly Carbondale has an interesting story and the facilities in the vicinity of the old D&H yards could be restored to provide something for tourists to look at. Gift and souvenir shops would probably be built. Tourists would dine in local restaurants. Tourists would shop in local businesses. Railroad excursion trips to Carbondale would be a shot in the arm for the city's economy.

But things don't just happen -- people make them happen. Steamtown won't come to Carbondale (or Scranton) without a lot of work on someone's part. It appears that Scranton officials are making an earnest effort to attract the exhibit which is now located in Bellows Falls, Vermont.

We suggest that Carbondale officials communicate our interest in attracting Steamtown to the area and pledge our support to help develop regular excursion trips to the Pioneer City.